

Daniels Akpan

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EDUCATION

Master of Arts in Educational Innovation, Technology, and Entrepreneurship University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Chapel Hill U.S.A	2023
Bachelor of Science in Industrial Design Ahmadu Bello University Zaria Nigeria	2013

OTHER TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION (COMPLETED/IN-VIEW)

- **Graduate Certificate in Innovation for Public Good**
- **Graduate Certificate in Improvement Science and Implementation**
- **Graduate Certificate in Participatory Research**
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill | Chapel Hill | U.S.A
- **Project Management Essentials Certified**
Management and Strategy Institute
- **Project Management Foundations**
LinkedIn Learning
- **Transitional Justice and Reconciliation after Violent Conflict**
Addis Ababa University
- **Certificate of Participation in Leadership in Civic Engagement**
Appalachian State University
- **Certificate of Participation in Civic Leadership**
Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration

WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Associate **March 2022 – Present**

[Global Social Development Innovations](#) | GSDI | UNC | U.S.A

- Support the development of a youth framework in the USAID funded project to provide practitioners and policy makers with templates for the measurement of youth vulnerability in India, Ghana, Zambia, Uganda, India, Galapagos, Nigeria, and the United State.
- Support World Bank Funded Project on the systematic review of literature on financial inclusion programming for young women in Low and Middle-income countries around the world.

Education Project Consultant (Part-Time) **May 2021 – July 2023**

- [development Research and Projects Centre](#) | dRPC | Abuja | Nigeria

Daniels Akpan Curriculum Vitae

- Lead and manage resource mobilization efforts reaching \$500,000 in funding for education portfolio from various donors and partners. Use compelling communication and good proposal writing abilities to successfully explain project goals, outcomes, and impact, resulting in a large increase in funding resources for educational interventions.
- Lead resource mobilization efforts, securing funding of over \$500,000 for education projects in Africa, and ensuring the implementation of impactful interventions to improve educational outcomes and opportunities.
- Lead and mentor a dynamic education project team, driving the design and implementation of innovative education projects and research initiatives in Africa, with a focus on informing policies and practices to advance the education outcome for vulnerable communities and population.

Graduate Assistant | Skills Training Facilitator

August 2022 – May 2023

Carolina Center for Public Service | BPSS | UNC | U.S.A

- Empowered and mentored over 100 Buckley Public Service Scholars (UNC undergraduate students) through impactful trainings on diverse topics, fostering their successful transition to the campus environment and equipping them with essential leadership skills to make a positive impact in their communities.
- Implemented a comprehensive evaluation process for scholars' performance in the program, leading to data-driven insights and targeted feedback. This resulted in continuous improvement and personalized support for scholars, optimizing their overall experience and engagement in the program, leading to an extended impact beyond graduation, as scholars continued to demonstrate a strong commitment to making meaningful contributions to society throughout their academic and professional careers.

Co-Founder and Program Director

Oct. 2014 – Dec. 2022

African Centre for Education and Development | CLEDA Africa | Kaduna | Nigeria

- Co-founded the Centre, driving its establishment from conception to full-fledged operation, and playing a key role in developing the organization's mission, vision, and strategic objectives.
- Utilized data-driven approaches to demonstrate program effectiveness and impact to attract support from major donors and development agencies and positioning the organization as a reputable and sustainable player in the education and development landscape in Africa. Led successful resource mobilization efforts, securing significant funding from diverse donors and partners, totaling over \$350,000, to support the organization's education and development programs and initiatives across Africa.
- Led the design and implementation of innovative and impactful educational programs and initiatives, reaching over 120,000 diverse stakeholders across several communities in 8 African countries, and contributing to significant improvements in educational access and quality.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Project Assistant

August 2022 – July 2023

The Consultative Group to Assist the Poor | World Bank Project

- Supports the systematic review of literature on financial inclusion programming for young women in developing countries.

Principal Investigator

May 2021 - December 2022

Laboratory for Interdisciplinary Statistical Analysis | CLEDA-LISA | Nigeria

- Lead the conceptual design and implementation of the investigation of the impact of COVID-19 on small and medium scale enterprises in Northern Nigeria.
- Led the identification and engagement of critical stakeholders in a Technical Working Group to coordinate shared knowledge and direct effort for the implementation of research findings by policy makers for policy direction and programmatic responses.

Youth Program Intern

August 2022 - Present

United Nations Population Funds | Kaduna | Nigeria

- Led the design of the survey to assess the gaps amongst adolescents and youth in Northern Nigeria to inform government policies and funding priorities.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate Assistant | Skills Training Facilitator

August 2022 – May 2023

Carolina Center for Public Service | BPSS | UNC | U.S.A

- Taught Inclusive Advocacy for Public Good to Buckley Public Service Scholars (UNC undergraduate students) in class size averaging 10 – 15 and evaluated scholars’ performance in the program and gave timely feedback for improvement.

Assistant Lecturer

June 2018 - August 2019

Nuhu Bamalli Polytechnic | Zaria | Nigeria

- Taught Glass Blowing to National Diploma and Higher National Diploma Students in a class size averaging 80-100 students and evaluated students’ performance and gave timely feedback.

ACTIVISM/VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

ONE Campus President | University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Chapter | U.S.A 2022 - Present

ONE Campaign

- Led the establishment of ONE Campus chapter in the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill while also coordinating the day-to-day activities of the chapter to engage and mobilizing the university community to collect handwritten letters to support advocacy for the replenishment of the Global Funds.
- Participated in advocacy to the US Congressional Leaders in U.S Capitol to advocate for the increased U.S Government support for global health through PEPFAR

Senator | Graduate and Professional Student Government

August 2022 – July 2023

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Chapter

- Represented graduate students from the School of Education in a university wide student government to ensure their voices and needs are heard and met.
- Held regular town hall meetings to foster community amongst graduate students.
- Supported the creation of programs, shape university policies to improve graduate student’s experience.
- Served as a member of the State of Graduate and Professional Student (SoGAPS) to review legislatures and policies that impact on students’ academic and social welfare.

ONE Champion

June 2020 – November 2021

ONE Campaign | Nigeria

- Mobilized community members in Northern Nigeria to support the fight against extreme poverty. Supported ONE’s responses to COVID-19 pandemic in Nigeria and Africa, and other campaigns including the Make Naija Stronger Campaign, #MythorVax Campaign in addressing Vaccine hesitancy.

Mandela Washington Fellowship | U.S.A

June 2019 – August 2019

Appalachian State University | U.S.A

- Completed the Mandela Washington Fellowship institute involving 179 hours of instruction, field visits, networking, volunteering, campaigning, and action plan development conducted by Appalachian State University in the United States of America.

One Million Teachers Inc

2012- 2013

Assistance Team Lead

- Supported the onboarding of 10,000 teachers in Rwanda for the Black Belt Program to improve educational quality for vulnerable population especially girls and people with disability.
- Supported teacher development advocacy in Nigeria with a focus on gender to ensure girls enrolment and retention in public schools across northern Nigeria.
- Supported the coordination of the first Black Belt program for outstanding teachers in Nigeria to honour their achievement.

National President | National Association of Industrial Design Students

2012- 2013

Ahmadu Bello University | Nigeria

- Led the establishment and inauguration of the national body of Industrial Design Students in Nigeria and served as the inaugural National President to drive the Association’s strategic plan to enhance student’s social and academic wellbeing and success.
- Hosted the first National Industrial Design Students Conference (in the 36 years of the program in Nigeria) in commemoration of the World Industrial Design Day.
- Led advocacy and campaign to improve students social, and academic wellbeing in campuses across Nigeria.

President | Society for Industrial Design Students

2009 - 2013

Ahmadu Bello University | Nigeria

- Led the establishment of ONE Campus chapter in the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill while also coordinating the day-to-day activities of the chapter to engage and mobilizing the university community to collect handwritten letters to support advocacy for the replenishment of the Global Funds.

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND RECOGNITIONS

- **Moise A. Khayrallah Innovation Fellow | 2022 – 2023.** The first African recipient of the Moise A. Khayrallah Innovation Fund - a competitive fund in the amount of \$76,000 awarded to the most promising graduate student at the School of Education at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill | U.S.A to facilitate the pursuit of promising innovation in education.
- **Clinton Global Initiative University Scholar | 2021**
Founded by President Bill Clinton, selected scholars are inspiring students and global innovators who work to tackle pressing challenges in their communities.
- **National Civic Responsibility Award | 2020**
Issued by the Nigerian Government. The National Civic Responsibility Award is a prestigious honour bestowed by the Nigerian Government upon individuals or organizations that demonstrate exceptional commitment and contribution to the betterment of society through active civic engagement, community development, and impactful initiatives that promote social progress and positive change.
- **Honorary Citizen of Boone, North Carolina | 2019**

Approved by the Council and issued by the Mayor of Boone and awarded in recognition of the outstanding contributions to education, youth and community development in Boone, North Carolina, USA.

- **Mandela Washington Fellow | 2019**
Facilitated by the United States Department of States, the Mandela Washington Fellowship, has a one percent acceptance rate and selects accomplished young leaders of African origin with established records of promoting innovation and positive impact in their communities and countries.
- **Young African Leaders Initiative, Regional Leadership Centre Fellow | 2018**
Facilitated by the United States Department of States, the Young African Leaders Initiative, Regional Leadership Centre is a sister program of the Mandela Washington Fellowship and selects accomplished young leaders of African origin with established records of promoting innovation and positive impact in their communities and countries.
- **Goodwill Ambassador to Nigeria | 2016**
Issued by the international Human Rights Commission in recognition of a strong support for human right advocacy and youth programming in Nigeria.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP AND ACCREDITATION

- **Associate Member** - Society for International Development
- **Member** - International Association of Community Development
- **Professional Member** - Association of Fundraisers Professional

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Chapters in Edited Book

- Chowa, G., **Akpan, D.**, (Accepted, In Press). Measuring Global Development Progress. In Chowa, G., *Global Social Work: Preparing Global Competent Social Workers for a Diverse and Interconnected World*

Manuscripts in preparation

- **Akpan, D.**, *Nigeria's Technical Education and Training Programs: Insights and Analysis*
- **Akpan, D.**, Excel, M., Mohammed, A., *Women Economic Empowerment in Nigeria: The role of African Centre for Education and Development*
- **Akpan, D.**, Excel, M., *An overview of the implementation of the Arewa Girls Forum: A Safe Space Project for Adolescents and Young Girls in Northern Nigeria.*

Research Reports and Briefs

- **Akpan, D.**, (2022) *The Impact of COVID 19 on small and medium scale businesses in Nigeria.* Boulder, CO: University of Colorado Boulder, Laboratory for Interdisciplinary Statistical Analysis (LISA 2020)

RESEARCH AND PROGRAM GRANTS

- **USAID/LISA 2020 – \$10,000** **2020-2021**
The impact of COVID 19 on small and medium businesses in Kaduna State grant - CLEDA Africa
Sub-contract grant
Role: Principal Investigator
- **Global Social Development Innovations, University of North Carolina - \$5,000** **2022**
Arewa Girls Forum Data Collection and Evaluation - CLEDA Africa Sub-contract grant
Role: Principal Investigator
- **World Connect - \$10,000** **2021**
AGF Skills to Wealth Program - CLEDA Africa Sub-contract grant
Role: Principal Investigator